

1 CLAIMS

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5 1. A file binding system, comprising:  
6 an elastic loop member;  
7 a bead member attached to said loop member; and  
8 a locking member slidably positioned about said loop member, wherein said  
9 locking member frictionally engages said loop member for allowing reduction or  
10 enlargement of an opening within said loop member and wherein said locking member  
11 is positioned between said bead member and a distal portion of said loop member.  
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14 2. The file binding system of Claim 1, wherein said locking member is  
15 comprised of a ring structure with an aperture.  
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18 3. The file binding system of Claim 2, wherein said aperture is sized to  
19 frictionally receive said loop member.  
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22 4. The file binding system of Claim 1, wherein said loop member is comprised  
23 of a solid loop structure.  
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26 5. The file binding system of Claim 1, wherein said loop member is comprised  
27 of an elongate member having a first end and a second end secured together forming  
28 said loop member.  
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2           6. The file binding system of Claim 5, wherein said first end and said second  
3 end are secured together by a knot.  
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6           7. The file binding system of Claim 1, wherein said bead member is comprised  
7 of a spherical structure.  
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10          8. The file binding system of Claim 1, wherein said bead member is larger than  
11 said locking member.  
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14          9. The file binding system of Claim 1, wherein said loop member is comprised  
15 of a flexible stretchable fabric with interwoven strands of elastic material.  
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18          10. A file binding system, comprising:  
19          an elastic loop member;  
20          a bead member attached to said loop member; and  
21          a locking member slidably positioned about said loop member, wherein said  
22 locking member frictionally engages said loop member for allowing reduction or  
23 enlargement of an opening within said loop member and wherein said locking member  
24 is positioned between said bead member and a distal portion of said loop member;  
25          wherein said locking member is comprised of a ring structure with an aperture;  
26          wherein said aperture is sized to frictionally receive said loop member;  
27          wherein said loop member is comprised of a solid loop structure;  
28          wherein said loop member is comprised of an elongate member having a first  
29 end and a second end secured together forming said loop member;

1 wherein said first end and said second end are secured together by a knot;  
2 wherein said bead member is comprised of a spherical structure;  
3 wherein said bead member is larger than said locking member;  
4 wherein said loop member is comprised of an elastic flat band structure;  
5 wherein said loop member is comprised of a flexible stretchable fabric with  
6 interwoven strands of elastic material.

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9 11. A method of securing a file binder about a file, said file binder comprised  
10 of an elastic loop member, a bead member attached to said loop member, and a locking  
11 member slidably positioned about said loop member, wherein said locking member  
12 frictionally engages said loop member for allowing reduction or enlargement of an  
13 opening within said loop member and wherein said locking member is positioned  
14 between said bead member and a distal portion of said loop member, said method  
15 comprising the steps of:

- 16 ( ) providing a file containing one or more documents within;  
17 (a) positioning said loop member about said file;  
18 (b) grasping said bead member and said locking member;  
19 (c) separating said bead member and said locking member causing said locking  
20 member to slide downwardly upon said loop member thereby tightening  
21 said loop member upon said file;  
22 (d) terminating said separating after a desired contraction force is applied to  
23 said file by said loop member; and  
24 (e) repeating steps (b) through (e) if another loop member is desired to be  
25 secured about said file.

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28 12. The method of securing a file binder about a file of Claim 11, wherein said  
29 locking member is comprised of a ring structure with an aperture.

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3           13. The method of securing a file binder about a file of Claim 12, wherein said  
4 aperture is sized to frictionally receive said loop member.  
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7           14. The method of securing a file binder about a file of Claim 11, wherein said  
8 loop member is comprised of a solid loop structure.  
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11           15. The method of securing a file binder about a file of Claim 11, wherein said  
12 loop member is comprised of an elongate member having a first end and a second end  
13 secured together forming said loop member.  
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16           16. The method of securing a file binder about a file of Claim 15, wherein said  
17 first end and said second end are secured together by a knot.  
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20           17. The method of securing a file binder about a file of Claim 11, wherein said  
21 bead member is comprised of a spherical structure.  
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24           18. The method of securing a file binder about a file of Claim 11, wherein said  
25 bead member is larger than said locking member.  
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1           19. The method of securing a file binder about a file of Claim 11, wherein said  
2 loop member is comprised of a flexible stretchable fabric with interwoven strands of  
3 elastic material.